TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, January 30, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 25 totaled an estimated 18.0 billion ton-miles, 15.4 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today. The 1985 week was affected by adverse weather conditions in various parts of the country.

Cumulative volume for the first four weeks of 1986 was an estimated 66.0 billion ton-miles, up 7.1 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended January 25 totaled 388,458, up 18.5 percent from last year, and 0.6 percent above the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 34.9 percent in the East, 20.1 percent in the South and 9.1 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 17 of the 21 major commodity groups increased. Coal loadings were up 33,598 cars (39.5 percent) and crushed stone, gravel and sand showed a gain of 3,068 cars (42.8 percent). Eleven of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 18 totaled 95,048 trailers and/or containers, 16.6 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first three weeks of the year was 250,194 trailers and/or containers, up 14.5 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 1/25/86:

| | Loadings in Week ended January 25, 1986 | | Change from Corresponding Week 1985 | | | Change from Preceding Week | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cars | | Cars | Percent | | Cars | Percent |
| Grain | 26,310 | I | 2,197 | 9.1 | D | 1,592 | 5.7 |
| Other farm products | 4,297 | I | 22 | 0.5 | D | 647 | 13.1 |
| Metallic ores | 11,973 | I | 1,652 | 16.0 | I | 1,482 | 14.1 |
| Coal | 118,651 | I | 33,598 | 39.5 | I | 1,197 | 1.1 |
| Crushed stone, gravel and sand | 10,228 | I | 3,068 | 42.8 | I | 722 | 7.6 |
| Nonmetallic minerals | 8,625 | D | 373 | 4.1 | I | 12 | 0.1 |
| Grain mill products | 10,838 | I | 416 | 4.0 | D | 200 | 1.8 |
| Food and kindred products | 11,463 | I | 721 | 6.7 | I | 270 | 2.4 |
| Primary forest products | 11,739 | I | 602 | 5.4 | D | 57 | 0.5 |
| Lumber and wood products except furniture | 7,594 | I | 694 | 10.1 | I | 234 | 3.2 |
| Pulp, paper and allied products | 13,684 | D | 154 | 1.1 | D | 152 | 1.1 |
| Chemicals and allied products | 24,275 | I | 234 | 1.0 | D | 212 | 0.9 |
| Petroleum products | 8,138 | I | 543 | 11.8 | D | 200 | 3.7 |
| Stone, clay and glass products | 9,489 | I | 1,112 | 13.3 | D | 19 | 0.2 |
| Coke | 4,959 | I | 1,099 | 28.5 | I | 497 | 11.1 |
| Metals and products | 8,829 | I | 1,693 | 23.7 | I | 235 | 2.7 |
| Motor vehicles and equipment | 23,591 | I | 2,944 | 14.3 | I | 663 | 2.9 |
| Waste and scrap materials | 9,197 | I | 1,819 | 24.7 | I | 325 | 3.7 |
| Forwarder and shipper association traffic | 5,764 | D | 570 | 9.0 | I | 66 | 1.2 |
| All other carloads | 61,678 | I | 9,297 | 17.7 | D | 261 | 0.4 |
| LCL traffic | 136 | D | 30 | 18.1 | D | 10 | 6.8 |
| Total Cars Loaded | 388,358 | I | 60,584 | 18.5 | I | 2,353 | 0.6 |
| Corresponding week of 1985 | 327,874 | | | | | | |

| | 1986 | 1985 | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total Cars Loaded (4 weeks) | 1,410,707 | 1,325,786 | I 7.0 |
| Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions): | | | |
| Week ended January 18 | 48.0 | 46.0 | I 4.2 |
| Week ended January 25 | 18.0 | 15.6 | I 15.4 |
| 4 weeks cumulative | 66.0 | 61.6 | I 7.1 |

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